

From: jim williams
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 12/19/02 7:14PM
Subject: fcc rules

02-277

Commissioner Jonathan **S.** Adelstein

I want to express my concern on media owner! p standar . What is needed is a tightening up of standards and a restriction of growth of what is **already** a monopoly and out of control. We do not need the media to control our every thought and action. Let them control themselves first and foremost. Show that they are responsible with what they have before giving them more. **It's** terrible what they do with the news and should be stopped!

Jim Williams

From: Wayne Grant
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: 1/16/03 3:16PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

02-277

Wayne Grant (w.grant@verizon.net) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein:

Attached herewith is a copy of an email I sent to Commissioner Copps. While both Mr. Copps and the chairman have publicly aired their views on broadcast ownership, I have yet to hear from the rest of the commission. I sincerely hope you are not protecting your political backsides by running for cover.

(attachment)

Subject: Broadcast Ownership
Date: Thu, 16 Jan 2003 14:34:45 -0500
From: vze2cdxz@mail.verizon.net
Reply-To: vzeZcdxz@verizon.net
To: mcopps@fcc.gov

Dear Sir:

Allow me to commend you for the position you have taken on the question of broadcast ownership. Unfortunately, far too many politicians, judges and bureaucrats, who have been elected or appointed to uphold the Constitution, choose to ignore it in pursuit of their own personal agenda. It is a commonly known fact that one of the first priorities of a dictatorship is the suppression of a free press. And what more effective and subtle tactic then to concentrate the media resources into the hands of a few entities with similiar or complimentary objectives?

Again, I thank you for your courage

Appreciatively yours,

Wayne Grant
17 Hillside Ave.
Teaneck, N.J. 07666

Server protocol: HTTP1.1
Remote host: 138.89.162.146
Remote IP address: 138.89.162.146

From: Wren Osborn
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: 1/10/03 3:29PM
Subject: Democracy requires **less** monopolization not more

02-277

Dear Commissioner Abernathy,

The following is a copy of an e-mail I sent to Chairman Powell.

Dear Chairman Powell,

It is not in the public's interest to eliminate rules rejecting monopoly ownership of various forms of media in a market. There is already too much concentration of media ownership in too few hands. **We** do not get fair and complete coverage of too many issues. You do not need to make the problem worse. You should be working to reverse the trend. TV media and newspaper media should not be owned by the same company.

Democracy cannot work unless the citizenry is fully and honestly informed. Your job is to **see** that it is.

Sincerely,

Wren Osborn
wrenosborn@cox.net
619-440-4179
1151 Pine Drive
El Cajon, CA 92020

From: yinglinl @msu.edu
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Thu, Jan 23, 2003 6:29 AM
Subject: Consider The Needs Of Children!

02-277

FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

Dear FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein.

Dear Mr. Powell,

I urge the FCC to consider the distinct needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in the development of children.

The relaxation of media ownership rules will result in significantly **less** original programming for children. Relaxation also will reduce competition, potentially stifling innovation and increasing commercialism in children's programming.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely, Charla Yingling 1201-D University Village
East Lansing MI 48823

Sincerely,

Charla Yingling
1201-D University Village
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

cc:
Senator Carl Levin
Representative Mike Rogers
Senator Debbie Stabenow

From: Andrew Buhrmeister
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, Jan 25, 2003 6:35 PM
Subject: Media Ownership Rule

02-277

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War II, our government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans have fought to defend from our countrys birth to the present.

Furthermore, the series of reports released by the FCC about the current media marketplace are focused almost entirely on the economic impact of relaxing the ownership rules. They ignore the public's interest in a diverse and independent press. You have also scheduled only one public hearing regarding this issue. The FCC has barely publicized the proposed changes, and combined with a very short public comment period I can only surmise that you hope to sneak these changes past the American people. I certainly didnt find out about them as a result of anything that was done by your agency.

You should be ashamed that an agency under your leadership is not using what is in the best interests of the American public as its guiding principle, but instead is thinking of what is most profitable for a few huge corporations who only care about the bottom line, not about what is good for democracy.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew Buhrmeister

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From: Michael Feldman
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:33 PM
Subject: FCC don't allow media monopolies

02-277

Dear Commissioner Powell:

One of the basic elements which help to keep the American media at least partially free and independent is the set of FCC regulations restricting consolidation and monopolies.

In the 2002 Biennial Review, the FCC appears to be planning to roll back many of these protective regulations: the Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule, the National Broadcast Ownership Cap, the Local Radio Ownership Rule, the Duopoly Rule and the Dual Network Rule.

Relaxation or abandonment of the preceding rules will result in the purchase of local and independent newspapers and radio and television stations by large media giants. The cost to the American People and Democracy will be far too high if local news, reportorial freedom and access to a true variety of legitimate views are further compromised.

Commissioner Powell, I urge you to make sure the FCC does not relax or drop these vital regulatory rules.

Sincerely,

Michael Feldman
205 Albany Avenue Apt 6C
Brooklyn, NY 11213

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

02-277

From: Bethany Homer
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, Jan 25, 2003 2:06 AM
Subject: A bit of constructive criticism

Michael K. Powell

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War II, our government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans have fought to defend from our countrys birth to the present.

If these pending regulations are imposed it will lead to a dead-end for future liberal media as we know it. Our media will become that of some Middle Eastern media that is controlled totally by the government. These regulations will infringe on our rights, as citizens to say what we need to say how and when we need to say it. We dont need big budget corporations telling us how to think and brainwashing us with their subliminal messages in their advertising.

Furthermore, the series of reports released by the FCC about the current media marketplace are focused almost entirely on the economic impact of relaxing the ownership rules. They ignore the public's interest in a diverse and independent press. You have also scheduled only one public hearing regarding this issue. The FCC has barely publicized the proposed changes, and combined with a very short public comment period I can only surmise that you hope to sneak these changes past the American people. I certainly didnt find out about them as a result of anything that was done by your agency.

You should be ashamed that an agency under your leadership is not using what is in the best interests of the American public as its guiding principle, but instead is thinking of what is most profitable for a few huge corporations who only care about the bottom line, not about what is good for democracy.

Sincerely yours,

Bethany Homer

1554 Hazelet Church Road

Cherry Tree, PA 15724

Do you Yahoo!?
New DSL Internet Access from SBC & Yahoo!

From: Ruben Alejandro
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sat, Jan 25, 2003 1:50 AM
Subject: A concerned American

05-277

Michael K. Powell

Chairman

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War II, our government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans have fought to defend from our countrys birth to the present.

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02-277

democracy.

Sincerely yours,

Ruben Alejandro

1809 1/2 W. Victory blvd

Burbank, CA USA 91506

Add photos to your messages with MSN 8. Get 2 months FREE!
<http://join.msn.com/?page=features/featuredemail>

p2 a-77

From: Silvan Erb-Summers
To: Mike Powell
Date: Mon, Jan 27, 2003 1:11 AM
Subject: Are you kidding?

Dear Mr. Powell

Our nation has long been plagued by the corporate domination of media. This domination is a large thorn in the side of democracy, Please do not replace it with a spear.

I request that you represent me in the fight to preserve the rule prohibiting cross ownership of newspapers and television stations in the same market.

Sincerely

An American Citizen

Silvan Erb-Summers

1629 Wynn Lake Rd

Alto, GA 30510

(706)778-9486

serbsum@yahoo.com

[link to info about grad assistantships and fellowships](#)

*

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02-277

From: Chris Reilly
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 2:40 PM
Subject: Changes to the Media Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War II, our government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans have fought to defend from our countrys birth to the oresent.

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Sincerely yours,

Chris Reilly

10 Laurel Woods Dr.
Blairstown NJ. 07825

From: evrevross@mosquiconet.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, Jan 24, 2003 6:41 PM
Subject: Comments of FCC Rule Changes

02-877

Dear Mr. Powell,

I suggest you read the following message to America. If you change the media ownership rules are you sewing the interests of the few at the expense of the many?

Sincerely,

Don Ross

"A Letter to America"

I was standing, with many friends, on the corner of University and Geist a few days ago. I held a peace sign protesting a rush to war by our government. Was anyone listening? Off to one side were two GI's flying a flag with a "Support the Troops" sign. Let it be clear, this was a protest against another senseless war, not against young soldiers who will die in a new conflict.

The several flags flying reminded me of an earlier pledge of allegiance to America. In those days of my youth I flew over the jungles of Viet Nam and Cambodia. It was an honor to serve my country. In these days I am ashamed to call myself an America. What have you become America? I weep for you.

You have taken our proud flag that still stands for the noble ideals of justice, equality and fraternity and drug it through a sewer of greed, self-seeking and self-indulgence. You have washed it in the chemical filth dumped in our nation's waterways so that the very essence of life itself is no longer fit to put in our bodies. You have hung it out to dry in fetid air, a witch's brew from the burning of fossil fuels - not fit to breathe and warming our world. You do nothing. You fiddle while "Rome" burns.

You see the common good as better served by rolling back rules that benefit the few at the expense of the many. You walked away from an arms control treaty. You walked out on an agreement to address global air pollution problems. You serve the god of money more readily than the God of creation. Your wealth seeking and materialism blinds you to the great needs of the poor within and beyond your artificial borders.

>From fear you vomit BILLIONS on bombs, bullets and missiles made for a self-sewing military industrial machine and consider this "good?" You give a pittance of your great wealth to alleviate the suffering in our world **let** alone provide basic health care, without cost, to needy citizens.

I have carried a poor African child in my arms with a leg mangled by an anti-personnel mine. You refused to sign a treaty banning the use of mines. This is an abomination. I have held an unwashed child in my lap at the Nejapa dump outside San Salvador, El Salvador and wept. The poor and their children, compelled by dire circumstance, to live from garbage at the dumps

02-277

of the world. You live off the fat of the land

You create Cuban gulags to house our "enemies" without due process, without recourse, and without hope, forgetting they are human beings as spiritually wounded as you.

Chased by fear, you pass a law robbing citizens of their precious freedoms, calling it a Patriot Act. Without hesitation you use forever toxic depleted uranium shells and assassinations to kill, following in the footsteps of others who believe the false wisdom and deceit of ends justifying means. You have advanced technology yet remain unaware you are spiritually crippled by these practices.

You are a nation that would go to war without looking first to eliminate the seeds of war, judging others as rogues without looking at the "log in your eye."

You are a nation with a government of the privileged few, by the privileged few and for the privileged few, more feared than respected, more hated than loved. Yet you believe you are a just nation unaware you have turned the noble concept of "justice for all" on its head - to mean 'just us.'

I pledge allegiance to a restoration of the high ideals upon which this nation was founded, not to a flag of a nation that has lost its way. I pledge allegiance to our common humanity not to artificial boundaries that separate people. I pledge allegiance to a justice that is compassionate and seeks an unfettered common good. I pledge allegiance to the workings of a just peace that seeks first to alleviate the conditions that make wars possible - injustice, poverty, disease, hopelessness. I pledge allegiance to the simple wisdom that only a good means can bring a good end. I repudiate war as a solution to human problems. Everlastingly, I pledge allegiance to divine power - Love!

Who is the rogue nation? Wake up America! It is you.

Don Ross is a longtime Fairbanks, AK resident and former bush pilot.

Don Ross
2532 Roland Road
Fairbanks, AK 99709
479-3792

From: greshan60@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri. Jan 24, 2003 9:48 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review -
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules
and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.
MM Docket No. 02-277, (rel. Sept. 23, 2002)

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, the Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In promoting its supposed goals of fair competition, diversity and local voice in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of the huge, dominant companies and players in the broadcast industry.

I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate, or even attempt to demonstrate, the negative effects that media deregulation and consolidation have had on the diversity of our media. While there may indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented has been severely limited.

The right to conduct an informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was renewed in the marketplace of diverse ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge and consolidate further, our ability to have an open, informed discussion from a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

I urge the FCC to preserve the public interest by keeping the media ownership rules in question intact.

Also, I support the FCC's plan to hold a public hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA in February of 2003. I strongly encourage the Commission to hold similar hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public. The rarified, lawyerly atmosphere of an FCC rulemaking is not an appropriate decision-making venue when questions as profound as the freedom of our media are at stake. I encourage the Commissioners to come out and meet some of the people who do not have a financial interest in this issue, but a social interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is important that the Commission take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,
Shirley Smith

02-277

P.O. Box 6723
Longview, TX. 75608

From: freecitizen7941 @lycos.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri. Jan 24, 2003 9:49 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank you,

Sincerely,

Richard Garner

Richard Garner

02-277

121 Orange Ave.. Sp. 115
Chula Vista, CA, 91911

From: harrygid@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri, Jan 24, 2003 9:49 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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Thank you,

Harry Guelzow

02-277

P.O.Box 50962
Idaho Falls,, ID, 83405

From: kdmbrijc@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Fri. Jan 24, 2003 9:49 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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Thank you,
Kerri McCoy

02-277

315 Cator Avenue
Jersey City, NJ, 07305

From: Joycehumboldt@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Thu, Jan 23, 2003 9:27 AM
Subject: FCC Hearing in Richmond, VA

02-377

Michael Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing to urge the FCC to maintain its rules prohibiting a company from owning a newspaper and TV station in the same city, along with those prohibiting any company from owning more than one TV station in the same market.

I believe strongly that our democracy depends on access to diverse opinions and perspectives, as guaranteed only by a media not controlled by a few monopolies.

Even though economic forces are exerting great pressure on companies to merge in this global marketplace, the FCC must find a way to maintain America's media independence market by market and thus preserve the freedom of information so basic to our democracy.

Thank you for holding the upcoming hearing in Richmond, VA to address these matters. I urge you to schedule more regional hearings so that these vital questions can be fully debated and to not weaken the current rules that protect our freedom.

Sincerely,
Joyce Humboldt

From: ravishan@uiuc.edu
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:09 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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02-277

Thank you,

sincerely,
Ra Ravishankar

307 E Clark St. #24
champaign, IL, 61820

From: lensametzl@excite.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:09 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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I urge the FCC to preserve the public interest by keeping the media ownership rules in question intact.

Also, I support the FCC's plan to hold a public hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA in February of 2003. I strongly encourage the Commission to hold similar hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public. The rarified, lawyerly atmosphere of an FCC rulemaking is not an appropriate decision-making venue when questions as profound as the freedom of our media are at stake. I encourage the Commissioners to come out and meet some of the people who do not have a financial interest in this issue, but a social interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is important that the Commission take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process. Thank you.

02-277

Sincerely, Len Sametz

10 Kent Ave.
Wayne, NJ, 07470

From: rswamy@wesleyan.edu
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:09 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review -
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules
and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking,
MM Docket No. 02-277, (rel. Sept. 23, 2002)

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, the Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In promoting its supposed goals of fair competition, diversity and local voice in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of the huge, dominant companies and players in the broadcast industry.

I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate, or even attempt to demonstrate, the negative effects that media deregulation and consolidation have had on the diversity of our media. While there may indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented has been severely limited.

The right to conduct an informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was renewed in the marketplace of diverse ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge and consolidate further, our ability to have an open, informed discussion from a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

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With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our

democracy, it **is** important that the Commission take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

Raja Swamy

02-277

265
Church Street
Middletown, CT, 06457

From: dhornstein152309mi@comcast.net
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:09 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

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Washington, DC 20554

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The right to conduct an informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was renewed in the marketplace of diverse ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge and consolidate further, our ability to have an open, informed discussion from a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

I urge the FCC to preserve the public interest by keeping the media ownership rules in question intact.

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With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is important that the Commission take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

Dave Hornstein

02-777

15633 W. 11 Mile, Apt. 213
Southfield, MI, 48076

From: nanoseed@yahoo.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:09 AM
Subject: I support media diversity

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate the negative affects media deregulation and consolidation have had on media diversity. While there may be indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented have become more limited.

The right to carry on informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was best served by a diverse marketplace of ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge, our ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding.

In addition, I support the FCCs plan to hold a public hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA in February 2003. I strongly encourage the Commission to hold similar hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions. I think it is important for the FCC to not only consider the points of view of those with a financial interest in this issue, but also those with a social or civic interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

#ouis #oprinzi Kammerer

3103 NE Dekum
Portland, OR, 97211

02-277

From: wissnerset@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:09 AM
Subject: I oppose media concentration!

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is important that the Commission take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,
Seth P. Wissner

02 - 2-77

7735 Arthur Avenue
Saint Louis, MO. 63117

From: janine-mahraun@hotmail.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Jan 26, 2003 11:09 AM
Subject: I support media diversity

02-277

Chairman Michael K. Powell:

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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I strongly believe that have a many viewpoints, interpretations of news, and editorial "picks" of news stories is essential for a successful democracy. I don't believe that big business should be allowed to dictate what the American people know about the events and issues of the world. Unfortunately, the majority of the press in this country is already owned by a few large corporations. Please don't allow these near monopolies to become even larger! It's been said that the problems in the world won't be solved by the minds that created them. Please support and encourage independent press - don't make it harder for them to survive; Please support and encourage American's to hear news from many sources don't make it harder for us to do so.

I am constantly amazed at how much news that i consider valuable and important isn't in the evening news or the mainstream daily newspaper or mainstream weekly news magazines. Also, i quite frequently find the editorials and "soft news" found in non-mainstream sources to be more informative and/or inspiring than what's found in the mainstream sources.

In addition, I support the FCC's plan to hold a public hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA in February 2003. I strongly encourage the Commission to hold similar hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions. I think it is important for the FCC to not only consider the points of view of those with a financial interest in this issue, but also those with a social or civic interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it

is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

Janine Mahraun

612 Maxwell Ave.
Frederick, MD, 21701

02-277